

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Second Public Meeting for Liberty State Park Circulator Cost Benefit Analysis

JERSEY CITY — Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy has announced that the second public meeting for the **Liberty State Park Circulator Cost-Benefit Analysis** will be held from **4:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.** on **Thursday, May 9, 2013** at **City Hall, 280 Grove Street**.

An open house will be held from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, during which members of the public will be able to view displays and talk one-on-one with members of the project team. At 6:30 p.m., the project team will make a presentation on the study's findings, including the costs and benefits of the potential options for a circulator service and an implementation strategy. The public will have an opportunity to ask questions during a question and answer session following the presentation.

A two-week public comment period will follow the public meeting during which written comments may be submitted by e-mail to lsprtransitstudy@gmail.com or by US mail to Division of City Planning, 30 Montgomery St., Suite 1400, Jersey City, NJ 07302, Attn: Naomi Hsu. During the public comment period, materials from the second public meeting will be available for download from the study website (www.lsprtransitstudy.com) or for inspection at the Division of City Planning (30 Montgomery St., Suite 1400, Jersey City, NJ 07302).

The Liberty State Park Circulator Cost-Benefit Analysis determined a need for mass transit service within Liberty State Park and analyzed a range of options for a mass transit circulator to serve the many destinations within the park. The study has identified four short-listed transit

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options that include rail and rubber tire modes and their associated costs and benefits. The final report will include an implementation strategy, including phasing and potential funding sources.

Located on Jersey City's eastern waterfront, Liberty State Park is the largest park in the city. There are many major destinations within the park, including the Liberty Science Center, ferry access to Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty National Monuments, the historic Central Railroad of New Jersey Terminal, the park's Interpretive Center, and the Liberty Landing marina. With six million visitors each year, Liberty State Park is the most-visited park in the state and the second most-visited state park in the nation.

Currently, mass transit serves the edges of the park with the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail Liberty State Park station located on the western edge and commuter ferry service on the northern edge. However, there is no regular transit connection between the transit stations on the park's edges and the park's interior and environs. A circulator service would facilitate movement between destinations in and around Liberty State Park, of which many are beyond reasonable walking distance from existing mass transit.

The study is funded with a \$175,000 grant from the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority. The City hired a consultant team led by Sam Schwartz Engineering to prepare the study. Liberty State Park is owned and operated by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Parks and Forestry. A Technical Advisory Committee consisting of representatives from City, County, State, and Park agencies; transportation professionals; and local businesses has convened several times throughout the study. The first public meeting was held in January 2013. The final report is anticipated by June 2013.

Please visit www.lsptransitstudy.com for more information.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.////